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HILLSDALE RURAL CEMETERY.

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A HISTORY

OF THE

ESTABLISHMENT OF THE

HILLSDALE

Rural Cemetery Association,

ITS PROCEEDINGS,

AND THEIR RESULTS.

HILLSDALE, N. Y.

BRYAN & WEBB, PRINTERS, HUDSON, N. Y.
1872.

HARVARD UNIVERSITY

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Hillsdale Rural Cemetery.

To a contemplative mind there is no place more interesting and instructive than a walk in a well ordered grave yard. It calls up reflections upon the scenes through which those sleeping before us must have passed in life. It induces us to take a retrospect of our past lives, in which so much of mental and physical suffering, had been mingled in our cup of happiness, that we are led to exclaim with the moralist: "The veil which conceals from our eyes the scenes of future events is a veil woven by the hand of mercy."

It causes us to look forward to that grave to which, through further mental and physical suffering, we are hastening, and in which those before us are so peacefully sleeping, and in serene resignation we are led to sing with the poet:

I would not live always, I ask not to stay,
Where storm after storm rises dark o'er the way;
The few lurid mornings that dawn on us here,
Are enough for life's woes, full enough for its cheer.

I would not live always—no, welcome the tomb,
Since Jesus hath lain there, I dread not its gloom;
There sweet be my rest till he bids me arise,
To hail him in triumph, descending the skies.

I would not live always away from my God,
Away from yon Heaven, the blissful abode;
Where the rivers of pleasure flow o'er the bright plain,
And the noontide of glory eternally reigns.

Where the saints of all ages in harmony meet,
Their Saviour and brethren transported to greet,
While the anthems of rapture unceasingly roll,
And the smile of the Lord is the feast of the soul.

Up to 1865 the inhabitants of Hillsdale had no grave yards under legal statutory protection. Over forty places had been used for burying dead, most of which had become obliterated. Two burying grounds of half an acre each, were situated near Hillsdale village. One was filled to its utmost capacity, and the other nearly so. No titles had ever been obtained for them. Bodies were buried by mere sufferance. But little or no regard was paid to kindred ties, and strangers were buried beside strangers, and the bones of some were thrown up to make room for the bodies of others, and the land being used for pasturage, the grave stones were not unfrequently broken.

Under these circumstances, a place for burying dead under legal protection, was long felt to be a necessity, and a committee for that purpose had been appointed for years. But they had either neglected to act, or were not able to surmount the difficulties they had to encounter. The rolling nature of the land and the proximity of rock and water to the surface, made it difficult to find ground of sufficient capacity for town cemetery purposes, and those owning the most proper land near the village refused to give title to land intended for a grave yard.

Mercenary motives or private resentments made it difficult to get the people to harmonize in respect to grounds remote from the village. Under these circumstances a meeting was called, which assembled at the Methodist Episcopal Church, in Hillsdale village, on the 28th day of November 1865. At that meeting the HILLSDALE RURAL CEMETERY ASSOCIATION was organized, according to law, as will appear from the copy of the certificate here inserted:

"We, the undersigned, of the town of Hillsdale, in the County of Columbia and State of New York, do hereby certify, that on the 28th day of November, 1865, at the Methodist Episcopal Church in the town of Hillsdale aforesaid, a meeting was duly held by a number of the inhabitants of said town, for the purpose of organizing a Rural Cemetery Association in said town, in accordance with an Act authorizing the incorporation of Rural Cemetery Associations, pursuant to Chapter 18, Title VIII, Article I, of the Revised statutes of the State of New York, and all

amendatory acts in relation thereto, at which said meeting the following proceedings were had, viz:

"Quincy Johnson was duly appointed as Chairman, and Edward L. Snyder as Secretary of said meeting, by a vote of a majority of the persons so associated, present.

"That the following are the names of the persons or associates who met and were present at said meeting, viz: Quincy Johnson, John F. Collin, Morris M. Brainard, Quincy Collin, John Q. Johnson, Henry Burton, Horace G. Westlake, A. Frank B. Chace and Edward L. Snyder.

"And we further certify that the corporate name of the Association was determined upon by a vote of a majority of the persons or associates who met and were present at said meeting, to be the "HILLSDALE RURAL CEMETERY ASSOCIATION." That the number of Trustees fixed on by said persons or associates to manage the concerns of the Association, was nine. That the Trustees chosen or elected by ballot, at said meeting, and their classification, by said Chairman and Secretary, immediately after their election, were as follows: Owen Bixby, Lester Van Deusen and John Q. Johnson, in the first class; Henry Burton, Horace G. Westlake and William P. Stickles, in the second class; Morris M. Brainard, George Sornborger and Walter B. Ten Broeck, in the third class.

"And we further certify that the day for the annual election of Trustees of said corporation was fixed and determined upon by a vote of a majority of the persons or associates who met and were present at said meeting, to be the first Saturday in November, in each year, at one o'clock P. M. That the meeting was then adjourned."

QUINCY JOHNSON, *Chairman.*

EDWARD L. SNYDER, *Secretary.*

STATE OF NEW YORK, }
COUNTY OF COLUMBIA. } ss. On the 29th day of November, 1865, personally appeared before me, Quincy Johnson and Edward L. Snyder, known to me to be the individuals described in and who executed the above certificate, and acknowledged that they executed the same.

MARTIN H. DORR,
Notary Public in and for said County.

STATE OF NEW YORK, } ss.
COUNTY OF COLUMBIA. } I, Edwin C. Terry, Clerk of the County of Columbia, aforesaid, hereby certify that the within is a true copy of a Certificate of Incorporation this day recorded in the office of the Clerk of said County. Hudson, N. Y., Nov. 29, 1865. EDWIN C. TERRY, *Clerk.*

The above Certificate is recorded in Book of Miscellaneous Records No. 2, at page 155.

Filed in the Office of the Secretary of the Board of Trustees of Hillsdale Rural Cemetery Association. Hillsdale, December 2, 1865. W. B. TEN BROECK, *Secretary.*

The Trustees of the Association entered with zeal upon their interesting and arduous duties, and at their meeting held at the Methodist Episcopal Church, on the 2d of December 1865, Morris M. Brainard was called to the Chair, and Horace G. Westlake chosen Secretary. By the unanimous vote of the Board, Morris M. Brainard was chosen President of the Association, and Henry Burton, Vice-President, Walter B. Ten Broeck, Secretary, and George Sornborger, Treasurer.

Horace G. Westlake, Owen Bixby and John Q. Johnson were appointed a committee to draft a Constitution and By-Laws for the Association.

On the 18th of December, 1865, the Board met at the house of Alexander Miller, and after deliberation adjourned to meet again on the same day at the house of Seymour Foster. At which place, after deliberation, it adjourned to meet again on the same day, at the house of Alexander Miller. At which place, after deliberation, it adjourned to a future day.

On the 23d of December, 1865, the Board met at the house of Henry Cornell, and after deliberation, adjourned.

On the 25th of December 1865, the Board met at the house of Alexander Miller, and after deliberation, adjourned.

On the 26th of December, 1865, the Board met at the house of Alexander Miller, and after deliberation, adjourned.

On the 2d day of January, 1866, the Board met at the house of Alexander Miller, and after deliberation, adjourned.

On the 6th day of January, 1866, the Board met at the house of Alexander Miller, and after deliberation, adjourned.

On the 20th day of January, 1866, the Board met at the house of Alexander Miller, and after deliberation, adjourned.

On the 27th day of January, 1866, the Board met at the Methodist Episcopal Church, and after deliberation, and the election of Joshua H. Bulkley, a Trustee, in the place of William P. Stickles, deceased, adjourned.

On the 1st day of February, 1866, the Board met at the house of Morris M. Brainard, and after deliberation, adjourned.

On the 10th day of February, 1866, the Board met at the store of the Hillsdale Mercantile Association, and after deliberation, adjourned.

On the 24th day of February, 1866, the Board met at the store of the Hillsdale Mercantile Association, and after deliberation, adjourned.

On the 3d of March, 1866, the Board met at the house of Alexander Miller, and after deliberation, adjourned.

On the 17th of March, 1866, the Board met at the house of Alexander Miller, and after deliberation, adjourned.

On the 24th of March, 1866, the Board met at the house of Alexander Miller. On motion of Joshua H. Bulkley, Owen Bixby and John Q. Johnson were appointed a committee to procure subscriptions for the purchase and improvement of the Cemetery grounds. On motion of Joshua H. Bulkley, the Secretary was instructed to inform Henry Cornell that his Deed, already executed, was accepted for the Cemetery grounds. The Deed was dated the 10th day of January, 1866, and was recorded in the Columbia County Clerk's Office, in Deed Book No. 28, on page 72, and conveyed to the Association 5 acres, 1 rood and 14 4-5 rods of land, and the consideration of the deed was one thousand two hundred dollars. And the Secretary was required to inform Dr. Cornell that all action of the Board in relation to any other land had ceased. On motion of John Q. Johnson, Joshua H. Bulkley, Morris M. Brainard and George Sornborger were appointed a committee upon the

subject of fencing the Cemetery grounds. And then the Board adjourned.

On the 31st of March, 1866, the Board met at the house of Alexander Miller, and after deliberation, adjourned.

On the 7th of April, 1866, the Board met at the store of the Hillsdale Mercantile Association. On motion of Joshua H. Bulkley, John Q. Johnson and Owen Bixby were appointed a committee to superintend the improvements to be made on the Cemetery ground. On motion of Joshua H. Bulkley, Ira J. Winchell was appointed the Keeper of the Cemetery ground, and then the Board adjourned.

Mrs. Eveline Johnson having purchased a valuable Hearse, at her request John F. Collin presented it to the Board of Trustees on the 14th day of July, 1866, at their meeting at the house of Alexander Miller. The generous gift was gratefully accepted by them, and they authorized Mr. Collin to return to Mrs. Johnson their most sincere thanks.

At the annual meeting of the members of the Association, held at the house of Alexander Miller on the 3d of November, 1866, Morris M. Brainard was called to the chair and Walter B. Ten Broeck, chosen Secretary.

Whereupon, John Q. Johnson, Peter B. Hollenbeck, and Ira J. Winchell were elected Trustees in the place of John Q. Johnson, Lester Van Duesen and Owen Bixby, whose official terms had expired.

On motion a unanimous vote of thanks was tendered to Morris M. Brainard for the judicious energy he had displayed as President of the Association and Superintendent of the improvement on the Cemetery grounds.

On the 16th of November, 1866, the Board met at the house of Alexander Miller and re-elected Morris M. Brainard, President, Henry Burton, Vice President, Walter B. Ten Broeck, Secretary, and George Sornborger, Treasurer, and Ira J. Winchell was appointed Superintendent of the Hearse and Cemetery grounds.

On the 1st day of February, 1867, the Board met at the house

of Alexander Miller, and appointed Peter J. Becker, Trustee, in place of Horace G. Westlake, whose resignation had been presented and accepted.

On the 5th day of April, 1867, the Board met at the house of Alexander Miller, and the Treasurer presented his report, which was accepted.

By said report—

The cash receipts, were	$2,305 00
The cash expenses, were	2,237 09
Leaving a balance in the Treasury of	$67 91

The outstanding debts were—

To individuals	$ 178 72
Due on purchase of Cemetery grounds	944 50
	$1,128 22

On motion, two plots in the Cemetery grounds were voted to be presented to Mrs. Eveline Johnson, as a token of gratitude for her generosity in presenting a Hearse to the Association.

On motion, Ira J. Winchell was authorized to procure and set out shade trees in the Cemetery ground.

At the annual meeting of the Association, at the house of Alexander Miller, on the 2d of November, 1867, Henry Burton, Peter J. Becker, and Joshua H. Bulkley, were duly re-elected Trustees, their term of service having expired.

On motion, it was—

Resolved, That the old officers of the Board of Trustees, hold over, as re-elected.

On the 21st day of March, 1868, the Board met at the house of Alexander Miller, at which Morris M. Brainard tendered his resignation, as a Trustee, he being about to remove from the town. The Board accepted his resignation with regret, and gave assurance that he would ever be held in the highest esteem by every member of the Association.

Quincy Johnson was elected Trustee in his stead, and Joshua H. Bulkley was elected President of the Association.

The Treasurer reported that during the year, he had received for the sale of Cemetery plots, the sum of... $554 00
And that he had paid on the debts of the Association. 571 57

At the annual meeting of the members of the Association, at the house of Alexander Miller, on the 8th of November, 1868, Quincy Johnson, George Sornborger and Walter B. Ten Broeck were re-elected Trustees of the Association, their term of service having expired.

At the annual meeting of the members of the Association, at the house of Alexander Miller, on the 6th of November, 1869, John Q. Johnson, Ira J. Winchell and Peter B. Hollenbeck were re-elected Trustees of the Association, their term of service having expired.

At the annual meeting of the members of the Association, at the house of Alexander Miller, on the 5th day of November, 1870, Joshua H. Bulkley, Peter J. Becker and Henry Burton, were re-elected Trustees of the Association, their term of service having expired.

At the annual meeting of the members of the Association, at the house of Alexander Miller, on the 3d day of November, 1871, Quincy Johnson, Walter B. Ten Broeck and Owen Bixby were elected Trustees in the place of Quincy Johnson, Walter B. Ten Broeck and George Sornborger, whose term of service had expired.

Their many meetings, numbers of which have not been noticed in this history, indicate the difficulties the Trustees have had to encounter. And for their patience, perseverance and industry, good taste and splendid success, they are entitled to the gratitude of the present and future generations in Hillsdale.

THE GROUNDS.

The grounds are situated one half mile northeasterly from Hillsdale village. The road leading from that village to Hillsdale Centre passes along the northerly border of the Cemetery; and the Columbia Turnpike road, at forty rods distance, and in full sight, passes its southerly border. Every foot of the land is well adapted to the purposes for which it is intended, and being a gravelly loam, in which the gravel predominates, while it is sufficiently tenacious, is easily dug, and no land could be more happily selected for preserving the substances deposited in its soil, or for preserving monuments erected, from the action of the frost.

Carriage ways crossing each other at right angles, run through the centre north and south, east and west, with a carriage way all around the borders.

Walks sunk in the ground, four feet wide, pass north and south between all the ranges, and east and west between every other plot.

It is sub-divided into 444 plots, seventy-six of which have already been taken, and seventy-two are in the free ground, leaving 300 yet to be taken, which, with judicious management, will produce a revenue for the improvement and preservation of the ground, for centuries to come.

There have been about fifty ornamental shade trees set out, and now living, principally around the borders of the ground.

On the easterly side is a wall two feet high and sunk two feet in the ground. Upon it is a painted picket fence, with iron posts. On the northerly side is a painted picketed fence, with iron posts, set in marble. On the westerly side is a painted picket fence, with wooden posts, having iron dowels at their feet, set in marble, with iron ~~bars~~ braces, the feet of which are also set in marble.

The gates are of iron, with ornamental architectural surroundings.

Two thirds of the land is nearly level, or gently rolling, while one third is elevated, admirably adapting it for plots, or receiving vaults, as may be desired.

Already near five thousand dollars has been expended in monuments erected to the memory of the dead, or in iron or marble fences around the plots.

And in the purchasing of the land and in its fencing, grading and ornamenting, including hearse house and hearse, nearly four thousand dollars more has been expended.

The outstanding debt on the 3d of November, 1871, was $514, with nearly enough surplus money in the treasury for its extinguishment.

MEMBERS OF THE ASSOCIATION.

The following are the names of the Members of the Association;

	Plots.	Plots.	Plots.	Range.
Ruth H. Collin,	5 6	7	8	4
Jane M. White and John F. Collin, Jr.,		1	2	4
John F. Collin,		3	4	4
Cynthia Truesdell,		9	10	4
Quincy Johnson,		5	6	5
Philip Becker,		7	8	5
Solomon B. Collin,		3	4	3
Walter B. Ten Broeck,		7	8	3
Eveline Johnson,		5	6	9
Stephen M. White,		11	12	4
George Sornborger,		3	4	2
Eliphalet Dimmick,		3	4	5
Leonard Johnson,		5	6	3
Nicholas Hollenbeck,		7	8	6
Levi Williams,		20	21	1
Henry Cornell,		5	6	2
Ira J. Winchell,		5	6	6
Henry M. Williams and Henry P. Williams,		.	16	7
Amanda Crandell,		.	11	6
Sybil and Squire Miller,		.	9	5
James McIntosh,		.	15	7
Jacob Makeley,		.	9	6
James Reynolds,		1	2	5
Seymour Reynolds,		.	5	7
John W. Pixley,		5	6	8
Norman Wolcott,		.	6	7
James Winchell,		3	4	6
John Q. Johnson,		7	8	2
Henry Michael,		.	16	9
Andrew Evarts,		.	16	8
John W. Waldorf,		.	7	7

Joshua H. Bulkley,	4	5	F
Jacob B. Murray,	6	7	F
Peter J. Becker,	4	5	G
George Bristol,	6	7	G
Mary L. McAlpin,	.	6	E
George L. Babcock,	7	.	8
Hubert L. Sharts,	.	9	3
Sanford Williams,	.	15	4
Samuel Mitchell,	18	17	3
Cornelius G. Becker,	.	9	3
Henrietta Jones,	.	16	5
Peter B. Hollenbeck,	.	.	.
Josiah Knapp,	.	.	.
Rosanna Turner,	.	.	.
Nathaniel House,	.	.	.
Richard A. Wheeler,	.	.	.
Henry Burton,	1	2	3
Owen Bixby,	.	5	E

In the foregoing plots the following persons have been buried:

MORTUARY SKETCHES.

JULIA BECKER, daughter of Philip and Elizabeth Becker, and wife of Andrew J. Kettle, born October 12, 1837, died July 9, 1861, and buried in Plot 8, of Range 5.

LUMAN F. BECKER, son of Philip and Elizabeth Becker, born December 20, 1833, died December 24, 1866, and buried in Plot 8, of Range 5.

MARY F. BECKER, daughter of Philip and Elizabeth Becker, born December 20, 1850, died September 6, 1852, and buried in Plot 8, of Range 5.

EUGENE A. BECKER, son of Henry L. and Jane Becker, born March —, 1854, died August 22, 1856, and buried in Plot 8, of Range 5.

ALTANAH BECKER, daughter of Henry L. and Jane Becker, born ~~October~~ Sept. 7, 1862, died February 8, 1863, and buried in Plot 8, of Range 5.

HATTIE BIXBY, daughter of Owen and Henrietta Bixby, was born January 4, 1864, died November 17, 1870, and buried in Plot 5, of Range E.

"Yet these new rising from the tomb,
With lustre brighter far shall shine
Revive with ever during bloom,
Safe from diseases and decline."

ELIZA DOAN, daughter of Ezra Doan, and wife of Henry Burton, was born 1808, and married to Henry Burton, October 29, 1834, died July 25, 1871, and buried in Plot 2, of Range 3.

She was intelligent, amiable and affectionate, and well deserving the monument erected to her memory.

LUCY BURTON, daughter of Henry and Eliza Burton, born November, 30, 1838, died August 13, 1857, and buried in Plot 2, of Range 3.

HENRY COLLIN BURTON, son of Henry and Eliza Burton, born June 11, 1843, died August 24, 1848, and buried in Plot 2, Range 3.

HARRY BRAZEE, born 1803, died 1868, and buried in Plot 18, of Range 7.

He was long a member of the Presbyterian Church and the purity of his life did honor to his religious profession,

JOHN COLLIN, of French parentage, was born in France, 1706, and emigrated to this country, 1730, in which year he married Hannah Merwin, of Milford, Conn., died 1746, and a monument is erected to his memory in Plot 6, of Range 4.

Having received a nautical education he was appointed to the command of the ship Swan, belonging to John Merwin, of Milford, Connecticut, whose daughter he married, and by whom he had three sons, John, David and James. He continued in command of the ship during sixteen years. But in the year 1746 he sailed in his ship from Milford Haven, for the West Indies, and was never heard of after. His family waited his return in painful suspense till time gave assurance that he never could return, and left them to realize the Poet's language:

"O were his tale of sorrow known,
'T were something to the broken heart;
The pangs of doubt would then be gone,
And fancy's endless dreams depart.

It may not be, there is no ray
By which his fate we may explore;
We only know he sailed away,
And ne'er was seen or heard of more."

Hannah Merwin's great-grandfather, (Miles Merwin, was born in Wales in 1623, and emigrated to this country in 1645, and purchased Merwin's Point in Milford, Connecticut. He died in 1697, aged 74 years. His son John, born 1650, inherited the homestead, and upon his decease, John Merwin, 2d, born 1780, inherited the homestead. He was the father of Hannah, the wife and widow of John Collin, and he became the guardian of her children. That homestead still remains in the family, and as a place of resort, is one of the finest bathing places on the sound.

The remains of JOHN COLLIN, 2d, were removed into Plot 5, in Range 4. He was the son of John and Hannah Collin, and was born in Milford, Connecticut, July 15, 1732, and married to Sarah Arnold, of Dutchess County, New York, September 16, 1758, by whom he had two sons and one daughter. The oldest of his sons died in the army in the war of the Revolution. Upon the death of his wife, Sarah, and in 1792, he married Deidamia Davidson, and died in Hillsdale, ~~June 9th, 1831~~ 1807, having lost his father in his infancy.

John Merwin, his maternal grandfather, became his guardian, and he brought him up to those habits of industry and economy which characterized all his life, and which led to the acquirement of a fortune.

SARAH ARNOLD, daughter of Anthony and Sarah Arnold, was born in Dutchess County, New York, May 24, 1742, was married to John Collin 2d, September 16, 1758, died in Hillsdale December 29, 1791. Her parents were Quakers, and her mild, patient, industrious training under them, characterized

her in her subsequent life, and did much to encourage and aid her husband in the procurement of his fortune. Her remains have been removed to Plot 6, Range 4.

Deidamia Morse, was born in Hillsdale, February 22, 1748, and was married to Capt. ——— Davidson, of Canterbury, Connecticut, and upon his death, and in 1792, was married to John Collin, 2d. She died in Austerlitz, June 9, 1831, and a stone is soon to be erected to her memory, in Plot 6, Range 4, and placed beside that of her husband, John Collin. She was grandmother of Lucretia Maria Davidson, whose poetic talent has given her name a place in Appleton's Cyclopedia of Biography.

John Collin 3d, son of John 2d and Sarah Collin, was born in Dutchess County, September 19, 1772, and married to Ruth Holman Johnson, October 23, 1798, and died December 28, 1833, and his remains have been placed in Plot 5 of Range 4.

Ruth Holman Johnson, daughter of William and Jane Johnson, was born in Bridgewater, Massachusetts, on the 16th of September, 1780, and married to John Collin, of Hillsdale, October 23, 1798, and died December 2, 1868. She was a member of the Methodist Church over seventy years, and was distinguished for her industry, prudence, religious zeal and tenacious memory. She was buried beside her husband in Plot 5, of Range 4.

Ruth Maria Collin, daughter of John and Ruth H. Collin, was born March 1, 1813, died in May 1838, and buried in Plot 5, in Range 4, beside her parents.

William Quincy Collin, son of John and Ruth H. Collin, was born November 23, 1819, died July 30, 1822, and buried in Plot 5, of Range 4.

Cynthia A. Collin, daughter of John and Ruth H. Collin, was born December 10, 1822, died August 5, 1828, and buride in Plot 5, of Range 4.

Pamelia Jane Tullar, daughter of Charles and Rebecca Tullar, was born in South Egremont, Massachusetts, April, 11, 1808, and married to John F. Collin, September 23, 1827, died

July 8, 1870, and buried in Plot 4 of Range 4. Mild, intelligent, industrious, prudent and affectionate, the monument erected to her memory is a just tribute to her many virtues.

JANE PAULINA COLLIN, daughter of John F. and Pamelia J. Collin, was born in 1828, died September 1830, and buried in Plot 5 of Range 4.

HANNAH CYNTHIA COLLIN, daughter of John F. and Pamelia J. Collin, was born in November 1829, and died in March 1831, in the second year of her age. She is buried in Plot 5 of Range 4.

MAY AMELIA COLLIN, daughter of Quincy J. and Martha Collin, was born in May, 1865, died in March, 1869, and buried in Plot 3 of Range 4.

JOHN J. COLLIN, son of John F., Jr., and Jennett Collin, was born December 12, 1858, died July 2, 1861, and was buried in Plot 2 of Range 4.

RUTH ANNA COLLIN, daughter of John F., Jr., and Jennett Collin, was born February 4, 1863, died October 14, 1870, and was buried in Plot 2 of Range 4.

JULIA ANN BUSHNELL, born in Hillsdale 1815, and married to Solomon B. Collin, died December 6, 1865, and buried in Plot 3 of Range 3.

VIOLA COLLIN, daughter of Solomon B. and Julia Ann Collin, was born May 26, 1855, died March 17, 1871, and buried in Plot 3 of Range 3.

ABBY B. COLLIN, daughter of Solomon B. and Julia Ann Collin was born 1850, died April 5, 1854, and was buried in Plot 3 of Range 3.

CYNTHIA COY, was born 1791, married to Stephen Bristol, and died April 19, 1869. A firm and consistent member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, she was ever mild and uniform in her intercourse with her family and in society, and she possessed talents of a high order. She was buried in Plot 6 of Range G.

GEORGE BRISTOL, son of Stephen and Cynthia Bristol, was born in Hillsdale 1821, and died October 4, 1868. He was a zealous member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and having

embarked in the mercantile business in Troy, New York, his rare business capacity, liberality and sterling integrity secured to him the confidence and patronage of the people, by which he acquired wealth. He was universally esteemed in life and as universally lamented in death. He was buried in Plot 7 of Range G., in which a large granite monument is erected to his memory, and that of his mother.

James S. Crandell, was born November 1811, died May 24, 1863, and buried in Plot 11 of Range 6.

Ellen P. Dimmick, daughter of Eliphalet and Henrietta Dimmick, born 1842, died September 29, 1867, buried in Plot 3 of Range 5.

Abigail Dimmick, died March 1834, aged 56 years, and buried in Plot 3 of Range 4.

John Henry Everts, son of Matthias and Catherine Everts, born 1837 died November 17, 1841, and buried in Plot 15 of Range 4.

Charlotte Maria Everts, daughter of Matthias and Catherine Everts, born 1839, died November 20, 1841, and buried in Plot 15 of Range 4.

Matthias Everts, born 1812, died January 1, 1845, and buried in Plot 15 of Range 4.

Lizzie Haywood, daughter of Lewis and Louisa Haywood, born 1868, died February 12, 1869, and buried in Plot 3 of Range 6.

Jane A. Hollenbeck, daughter of Nicholas and Lydia Hollenbeck, born 1835, died November 24, 1856, and buried in Plot 7 of Range 6.

Anna Van Dusen, wife of Henry Hollenbeck, born 1844, died September 25, 1870, and buried in Plot 7 of Range 3.

Benjamin House, born 1778, died July, 1839, and buried in Plot 19 of Range 2. He was long a practicing physician in the town of Hillsdale, and ever enjoyed the confidence and esteem of the people.

Phebe Van ~~De Bor~~ Delaugh, wife of Benjamin House, born 1791, died May 13, 1824, buried in Plot 19 of Range 2.

Polly Stever, second wife of Benjamin House, born 1795, died March 4, 1869, and buried in Plot 19 of Range 2.

Doct. Nathaniel House, born 1743, died August 1, 1824, and buried in Plot 18 of Range 2.

Sally House, daughter of Doct. Nathaniel and Heletia House, born 1783, died April 30, 1858, buried in Plot 18 of Range 2.

Jacob House, born 1775, died April 5, 1839, and buried in Plot 18 of Range 2.

Benjamin House, son of Jacob and Phalia House, born 1801, died May 13, 1834, and buried in Plot 18 of Range 2.

Phalia House, wife of Jacob House, born 1775, died May 16, 1830, and buried in Plot 18 of Range 2.

Heletia House, wife of Doct. Nathaniel House, born 1741, died May 22, 1816, and buried in Plot 18 of Range 2.

Eliza House, daughter of Jacob and Phalia House, and wife of Harry Rodman, born 1798, died March 2, 1857, and buried in Plot 18 of Range 2.

Sally Maria House, daughter of Jacob and Phalia House, born 1808, died April 20, 1824, and buried in Plot 18 of Range 2.

Nelson House, son of Jacob and Phalia House, born 1811 died January 25, 1824, and buried in Plot 18 of Range 2.

Jane C. House, daughter of Jacob and Phalia House, born 1803, died December 18, 1815, and buried in Plot 18 of Range 2.

Emilda House, daughter of Jacob and Phalia House, born 1800, and died March 22, 1811, buried in Plot 18 of Range 2.

Maria House, daughter of Jacob and Phalia House, born 1788, died December 21, 1805, and buried in Plot 18 of Range 2.

Polly Vanderburgh, born 1787, died June 14, 1866, and buried Plot 19 of Range 2.

John A. Hollenbeck, son of Nicholas and Lydia Hollenbeck, born 1856 died April 25, 1857, and buried Plot 7 of Range 6.

William Johnson, son of Benjamin and Ruth Holman Johnson, was born in Bridgewater, Massachusetts, 1753, died in Hillsdale April 15, 1818, and buried in Plot 5 of Range 5.

His ancestors were prominent among those who gave Massachusetts its early history. His grandfather Isaac Johnson, was a magistrate and cotemporary with John Quincy and Col. John Holman. He served with them in the military and in the Colonial Legislature of Massachusetts. His mother, Ruth Holman, was the wife of Benjamin Johnson and the daughter of Col. John and Ann Holman, and the niece of John Quincy, and cousin to the wife of Ex President John Adams, and sister to to the wife of Ephraim Cary, the ancestor of the sweet sisters of song, Phebe and Alice Cary. He married Jane Robinson, November 8, 1779.

Jane Robinson, daughter of James and Jerusha Bartlett Robinson, was born on Clark's Island in Plymouth harbor, Massachusetts, August 6, 1763, married to William Johnson, of Bridgewater, Massachusetts, November 8, 1779, died in Hillsdale, March 1836, and was buried in Plot 5 of Range 5.

She was within hearing of the battle of Bunker Hill, at which she had three brothers, two of whom subsequently died in the army, and a third fell in one of the battles with the army of Burgoyne. From childhood a zealous member of the Church, she was intelligent and social, and universally respected. Her eldest daughter married John Collin, of Hillsdale. Her second daughter married Elias Ford, of Hawley Massachusetts; her third daughter married the Rev. Harry Truesdell, of Hillsdale, and her fourth daughter married the Rev. Leonidas L. Hamlin, a Bishop of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and her son, after filling with credit all the highest offices of the town, is now a Trustee of this Association.

Abigail Cook, wife of Quincy Johnson, was born 1785, died December 22, 1859, and buried in Plot 6 of Range 5.

Wesley Johnson, son of Quincy and Abigail Johnson, born 1813, died July 1, 1844, and buried in Plot 6 of Range 5.

Employed by the Colonization Society, he spent several years in Liberia, Africa, partly as physician to the Governor of the Colony, and partly as the acting Governor himself, and finally fell a victim to the malaria of that climate.

Jane Johnson, daughter of Quincy and Abigail Johnson, was born 1818, died November 24, 1830, and was buried in Plot 6 of Range 5.

Ida Johnson, daughter of William Leonard and Emeline Johnson, born 1853, died September 25, 1855, and buried in Plot 5 of Range 3.

John Jones, son of Moses and Eliza Jones, born 1842, married to Henrietta Loomis, died August 2, 1869, and buried in Plot 16 of Range 5.

John W. Miller, born 1786, died May 20, 1864, and buried in plot 9 of Range 5.

Sybil Miller, born 1800, died September 28, 1869, and buried in Plot 9 of Range 5.

Caroline McArthur, wife of Seymour Van Deusen, born 1814, died March 7, 1862, and buried in Plot 8 of Range 3.

Nelson T. Morris, born 1827, died August 7, 1860, and buried in Plot 5 of Range 2.

Lydia Morris, born 1775, died February 27 1860, and buried in Plot 5 of Range 2.

John Mitchell, born 1826, died January 16, 1857, and buried in Plot 20 of Range 1.

Jennett V. Mitchell, daughter of John and Gertrude Mitchell, born 1857, died April 27, 1858, and buried in Plot 20 of Range 1.

Philo McAlpin, born 1824, died March 17, 1859, and buried in Plot 6 of Range E.

His ancestors were among the early settlers of Hillsdale, and were characterized by industry, intelligence and integrity, and the Italian monument erected to his memory, bears evidence that he emulated their antecedents.

Maria M'Intosh, daughter of James and Elsie M'Intosh, born 1860, died June 30, 1861, and buried in Plot 15 of Range 7.

Olive E. M'Intosh, daughter of James and Elsie M'Intosh, born 1855, died July 18, 1861, and buried in Plot 15, Range 7.

JOSIAH KNAPP, born 1796, died November 8, 1864, and buried in Plot 10 of Range 6.

He was long a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, long a magistrate in Hillsdale, and long a Judge in Columbia County, and in each capacity enjoyed the esteem and respect of the people.

TAMMISON KNAPP, wife of Josiah Knapp, born 1797, died April 26, 1871, and buried in Plot 10 of Range 6.

TAMMISON KNAPP, daughter of Josiah and Tammison Knapp, wife of Rufus H. Watson, born 1829, died March 2, 1854, and buried in Plot 10, Range 6.

JOHN W. KNAPP, son of Josiah and Tammison Knapp, born 1818, died August 6, 1856, and buried in Plot 10 of Range 6.

CORA F. OLDS, daughter of John H. and Emily E. Olds, born 1855, died December 18, 1867, and buried in Plot 4 of Range 6.

JOHN PIXLEY, born 1776, died July 2, 1839, and buried in Plot 5 of Range 8.

He was a gentleman of fine appearance, commanding talents, and once high Sheriff of Columbia County, and once a member of the State Legislature.

ANNA BIRDSALL, daughter of Benjamim Birdsall, and wife of John Pixley, born 1776, died March 18, 1842, and buried in Plot 5 of Range 8.

EVELINE BRYAN, daughter of James Bryan, and niece of Anna Pixley, and grand-daughter of Benjamin Birdsall, born in the year 1800, died November 1871, and buried in Plot 4 of Range 8.

In her girlhood she was characterized for intelligence, vivacity and beauty. Her father was long a respected magistrate in the town of Hillsdale, and for many years represented the town in the Board of Supervisors, and her grandfather, Benjamin Birdsall, was three times a representative in the State Legislature.

MAURICE PIXLEY, son of John and Anna Pixley, was born, 1800, died October 26, 1863, and buried in Plot 5 of Range 8.

GROSVENOR PIXLEY, son of John and Anna Pixley, born 1820, died October 2, 1848, and buried in Plot 6 of Range 8.

Ephraim Pixley, born 1757, died December 8, 1829, and buried in Plot 5 of Range 8.

Edwin Pixley, son of John and Anna Pixley, born 1809, died October 31, 1841, and buried in Plot 6 of Range 8.

John Reynolds, born 1768, died October 2, 1837, and buried in Plot 1 of Range 5.

Orville Renolds, son of John and Polly Reynolds, born 1819, died May 25, 1839 and buried in Plot 1 of Range 5.

James Reynolds, son of John and Polly Reynolds, born 1799, died March 29, 1869.

He acquired a large property by his industry and prudence, and was for some years a magistrate in the town of Copake.

Betsey Downing, wife of James Reynolds, born 1802, died March 14, 1869, and buried in Plot 2 of Range 5.

Isabell Reynolds, daughter of James and Betsey Reynolds, and wife of Ralph Bradford, born 1840, died February 19, 1869, and buried in Plot 2 of Range 5.

Seymour Reynolds, son of John and Polly Reynolds, born 1803, died October 25, 1867, and buried in Plot 5 of Range 7.

Betsey Lampman, wife of Seymour Reynolds, born 1810, died February 18, 1862, and buried in Plot 5 of Range 7.

John M. Reynolds, son of Seymour and Betsey Reynolds, born 1831, died September 30, 1847, buried in Plot 5 of Range 7.

Augustus M. Reynolds, son of Allen and Alice Reynolds, born 1865, died February 26, 1869, and buried in Plot 2 of Range 5.

James Reynolds, son of Allen and Alice Reynolds, born ~~1837~~ 1869, died ~~June 8, 1861~~ 1870, and buried in Plot 2 of Range 5.

Casper Reynolds, son of Seymour and Betsey Reynolds, born 1837, died June 8, 1861, and buried in Plot 5 of Range 7.

John Sharts, born 1792, died September 23, 1870, and buried in Plot 15 of Range 4.

Norman Sharts, son of Nicholas and Mary H. Sharts, born 1821, died July 30, 1849, and buried in Plot 11 of Range 6.

NICHOLAS SHARTS, born 1789, died January 1, 1834, and buried in Plot 11 of Range 6.

RUFUS C. SHARTS, son of Nicholas and Mary H. Sharts, born 1816, died April 18, 1835, and buried in Plot 11 of Range 6.

CORNELIA SHARTS, daughter of Nicholas and Mary H. Sharts, born 1819, died June 3, 1825, and buried in Plot 11 of Range 6.

MARY H. SHARTS, wife of Nicholas Sharts, born 1791, died July 13, 1833, and buried in Plot 11 of Range 6.

JOHN SORNBORGER, born 1767, died May 1, 1856, buried in Plot 3 of Range 2.

URIAH SORNBORGER, son of John Sornborger, born 1788, died September 17, 1850, and buried in Plot 3 of Range 2.

He long held a commanding position in the Methodist Episcopal Church, and was intelligent, genial and liberal.

BETSEY, wife of Uriah Sornborger, born 1789, died January 10, 1858, and buried in Plot 3 of Range 2.

EDWARD SORNBORGER, son of Uriah and Betsey Sornborger, born 1813, died June 11, 1842, and buried in Plot 3 of Range 2.

HARRIET OSBORN, wife of George Sornborger, born February 1823, died September 19, 1871, and buried in Plot 3 of Range 2.

MARY SORNBORGER, daughter of George and Harriet Sornborger, born 1853, died September 1, 1857, and buried in Plot 3 of Range 2.

AARON SHARTS, born 1832, died December 17, 1855, and buried in Plot 15 of Range 4.

HARRY TRUESDELL, born 1788, died October 14, 1844, and was buried in Plot 9 of Range 4.

In early life he joined the Methodist Episcopal Church, in which he obtained a license to preach, which he retained and practiced all his life. He married Clynthia Johnson, on the 19th of February 1809. Intelligent, mild and amiable, he enjoyed an enviable reputation, in all his relations.

ELIJAH TURNER, born 1814, died October 26, 1858, and was buried in Plot of Range....

ALICE TEN BROECK, daughter of Walter B. and Mariette Ten Broeck, born 1859, died May 4, 1861, and buried in Plot 7, Range 3.

STEPHEN M. WHITE, born 1805, died April 10, 1867, and buried in Plot 12 of Range 4.

JAMES H. WALDORF, born 1848, died March 20, 1869, and buried in Plot 7 of Range 7.

HIRAM H. WHITE, born in Canton, Connecticut, in 1806, and married to Jane M. Collin, June 2, 1830, died October 11, 1864. Buried in Plot 1, Range 4.

He was a clergyman—a member of the New England Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church, in which he labored for many years. In talents, integrity and eloquence, he had but few superiors.

MARY JANE WILLIAMS, daughter of Henry M. and Ada Williams, born in 1836, died June 14, 1854, and buried in Plot 16 of Range 7.

MINARD WILLIAMS, born 1782, died March 15, 1860, and buried in Plot 17 of Range 7.

JOHN L. WILLIAMS, son of Henry P. and Cynthia Williams, born 1829, died October 15, 1840, and buried in Plot 16 of Range 7.

ABBY WILLIAMS, daughter of Henry P. and Cynthia Williams, born 1826, died June 20, 1830, and buried in Plot 16 of Range 7.

HELEN WILLIAMS, daughter of Warren Williams, born 1848, died September 12, 1852, and buried in Plot 16 of Range 7.

SARAH TAYLOR, wife of NORMAN WOLCOTT, born 1832, died August 26, 1869, and buried in Plot 6 of Range 7.

NETTIE WOLCOTT, daughter of Norman and Sarah Wolcott, born 1862, died March 6, 1868, and buried in Plot 6 of Range 7.

FRANK WOLCOTT, son of Norman and Sarah Wolcott, born in June 1869, died October 16, 1869, and buried in Plot 6 of Range 7.

Sarah Jemima Winchell, daughter of Peter C. and Doratha Williams, and wife of Ira J. Winchell, born 1825, died November 4, 1861, and buried in Plot 5 of Range 6.

Sarah Sabelia Winchell, daughter of Ira J. and Sarah J. Winchell, born 1853, died September 4, 1861, and buried in Plot 5 of Range 6.

LAWS RELATING TO CEMETERIES, &C.

Chap. 133.

AN ACT authorizing the incorporation of Rural Cemetery Associations.

Passed April 27, 1847.

The People of the State of New York, represented in Senate and Assembly, do enact as follows:

SEC. 1. Any number of persons residing in this State, not less than seven, who shall desire to form an association for the purpose of procuring and holding lands to be used exclusively for a cemetery, or place for the burial of the dead, may meet at such time and place as they or a majority of them may agree, and appoint a chairman and secretary by the vote of the majority of the persons present at the meeting; and proceed to form an association by determining on a corporate name, by which the association shall be called and known; by determining on the number of trustees to manage the concerns of the association, which number shall not be less than six, nor more than twelve; and thereupon may proceed to elect by ballot, the number of trustees determined on; and the chairman and secretary shall immediately after such election, divide the trustees by lot, into three classes; those in the first class to hold their office one year, those in the second class two years, and those in the third class three years. But the trustees of each class may be re-elected if they shall possess the qualification hereinafter mentioned. The meeting shall also determine on what day in each year, the future annual elections of trustees shall be held.

SEC. 2. The chairman and secretary of the meeting, shall, within three days after such meeting, make a written certificate and sign their names thereto, and acknowledge the same before an officer authorized to take the proof and acknowledgement of conveyances in the county where such meeting shall have been been held, which certificate shall state the names of the associates who attended such meeting; the corporate name of the association, determined upon by the majority of the persons who met; the number of trustees fixed on, to manage the concerns of the association; the names of the trustees chosen at the meet-

ing, and their classification, and the day fixed on for the annual election of trustees; which certificate it shall be the duty of the chairman and secretary of such meeting, to cause to be recorded in the clerk's office of the county in which the meeting was held, in a book to be appropriated to the recording of certificates of incorporation.

SEC. 3. Upon such certificate, duly acknowledged as aforesaid being recorded, the association mentioned therein, shall be deemed legally incorporated, and shall have and possess the general powers and privileges, and be subject to the liabilities and restrictions contained in the third title of the eighteenth chapter of part first of the Revised Statutes. The affairs and property of such associations, shall be managed by the trustees, who shall annually appoint from among their number, a president and a vice-president, and shall also appoint a secretary and a treasurer, who shall hold their places during the pleasure of the board of trustees; and the trustees may require the treasurer to give security for the faithful performance of the duties of his office.

SEC. 4. Any association incorporated under this act, may take by purchase or devise, and hold, within the county in which the certificate of their incorporation is recorded, not exceeding two hundred acres of land; to be held and occupied exclusively for a cemetery for the burial of the dead. Such land or such parts thereof, as may from time to time be required for that purpose, shall be surveyed and sub-divided into lots or plats of such size as the trustees may direct, with such avenues, paths, alleys and walks as the trustees deem proper; and a map or maps of such surveys, shall be filed in the clerk's office of the county in which the land shall be situated. And after filing such map, the trustees may sell and convey the lots or plats designated on such map, upon such terms as shall be agreed, and subject to such conditions and restrictions, to be inserted in or annexed to the conveyances, as the trustees shall prescribe. The conveyances to be executed under the common seal of the association, and signed by the president or vice-president, and the treasurer of the association. Any association incorporated under this act, may hold personal property to an amount not exceeding five thousand dollars, besides what may arise from the sale of lots or plats.

SEC. 5. The annual election for trustees, to supply the place of those whose term of office expires, shall be holden on the day mentioned in the certificate of incorporation, and at such hour and place as the trustees shall direct; at which election shall be chosen such number of trustees, as will supply the places of those whose term expires. The trustees chosen at any election subsequent to the first, shall hold their places for three years, and until others shall be chosen to succeed them. The election shall be by ballot, and every person of full age, who shall be proprietor of a lot or plat in the cemetery of the association, containing not less than four hundred square feet of land, or if there be more than one proprietor of any such lot of plat, then such one of the proprietors as the majority of joint proprietors shall designate to represent such lot or plat, may either in person or by proxy, give one vote for each plat or lot, of the dimensions aforesaid; and the persons receiving a majority of all the votes given at such election, shall be trustees to succeed those whose term of office expires. But in all elections after the first, the trustees shall be chosen from among the proprietors of lots or plats. And the trustees shall have power to fill any vacancy in their number, occurring during the period for which they hold their office. Public notice of the annual elections shall be given in such manner as the by-laws of the corporation shall prescribe.

SEC. 6. The trustees at each annual election, shall make reports to the lot proprietors of their doings, and of the management and condition of the property and concerns of the association. If the annual election shall not be held on the day fixed in the certificate of incorporation, the trustees shall have power to appoint another day, not more than sixty days thereafter, and shall give public notice of the time and place, at which time the election may be held with like effect as if holden on the day fixed in the certificate. The office of the trustees chosen at such time, to expire at the same time as if they had been chosen at the day fixed by the certificate of incorporation.

SEC. 7. All lots or plats of ground designated on the maps filed as aforesaid, and numbered as seperate lots by the incorporation, shall be indivisible, but may be held and owned in

undivided shares. One-half at least of the proceeds of all sales of lots or plats shall be first appropriated to the payment of the purchase money of the lands acquired by the association, until the whole purchase money shall be paid, and the residue thereof to preserving, improving and establishing the said cemetery grounds and the avenues, or roads leading thereto, and to defraying the incidental expenses of the cemetery establishment. And after the payment of the purchase money and the debts contracted therefor, and for surveying and laying out the land, the proceeds of all future sales shall be applied to the improvement, embellishment and preservation of such cemetery, and for incidental expenses and to no other purpose or object.

SEC. 8. Any person who shall wilfully destroy, mutilate, deface, injure or remove any tomb, monument, grave stone, building or other structure, placed in any cemetery of any association incorporated under this act, or any fence, railing or other work for the protection or ornament thereof, or of any tomb, monument, or grave stone, or other structures aforesaid, or of any plot or lot within such cemetery, or shall wilfully destroy, cut, break or injure any tree, shrub or plant, within the limits of such cemetery, shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor; and such offender shall also be liable in an action of trespass; to be brought in all such cases in the name of such association, to pay all such damages as shall have been occasioned by his unlawful act or acts. Such money when recovered shall be applied by the trustees to the reparation or restoration of the property so destroyed or injured.

SEC. 9. Any association incorporated pursuant to this act, may take and hold any property, real or personal, bequeathed or given upon trust, to apply the income thereof under the direction of the trustees of such association, for the improvement or embellishment of such cemetery, or the erection or preservation of any buildings, structures, fences or walks, erected or to be erected upon the lands of such cemetery association, or upon the lots or plats of any of the proprietors; or for the repair, preservation, erection or renewal of any tomb, monument, grave stone, fence, railing, or other erection, in or around any cemetery lot, or plat; or for planting and cultivating trees, shrubs, flowers or

plants, in or around any such lot or plat, or for improving or embellishing such cemetery, or any of the lots or plats in any other manner or form; consistent with the design and purposes of the association according to the terms of such grant, devise or bequest.

SEC. 10. The cemetery lands and property of any association, formed pursuant to this act, shall be exempt from all public taxes, rates and assessments; and shall not be liable to be sold on execution, or be applied in payment of debts, due from any individual proprietors. But the proprietors of lots or plats in such cemeteries, their heirs, or devisees, may hold the same exempt therefrom so long as the same shall remain dedicated to the purpose of a cemetery, and during that time, no street, road, avenue, or thoroughfare shall be laid through such cemetery, or any part of the lands held by such association, for the purposes aforesaid; without the consent of the trustees of such association, except by special permission of the legislature of the state.

SEC. 11. Whenever the said land shall be laid off into lots or plats, and such lots or plats or any of them shall be transferred to individual holders, and after there shall have been an interment in a lot or plat so transferred, such lot or plat from the time of such first interment shall be forever thereafter inalienable, and shall upon the death of the holder or proprietor thereof descend to the heirs at law of such holder or proprietor, and to their heirs at law forever: Provided, nevertheless, that any one or more of such heirs at law may release to any other of the said heirs at law his, her or their interest in the same, on such conditions as shall be agreed on and specified in such release, a copy of which release shall be filed with the town clerk of the town or the register of the city within which the said cemetery shall be situated. And provided further, that the body of any deceased person shall not be interred in such lot or plat, unless it be the body of a person having at the time of such decease an interest in such lot or plat, or the relative of some person having such interest, or the wife of such person, or her relative, except by the consent of all persons having an interest in such lot or plat.

SEC. 12. The Legislature may at any time alter or repeal this act.

SEC. 13. This act shall effect immediately.

Chap. 573.

AN ACT for the more effectual prevention of wanton and malicious mischief.

Passed July 18, 1853.

The People of the State of New York, represented in Senate and Assembly, do enact as follows:

SEC. 1. Any person who shall maliciously or wantonly destroy, injure, or deface any monument, or work of art, building, fence, or other structure, or destroy or injure any ornamental tree, shrub or plant, whether situated on any private ground, or on any street, public place, public or private way, or cemetery, shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor, and upon conviction shall be punished by fine not exceeding one hundred and fifty dollars, or by imprisonment not exceeding six months, or both. Every such person shall, moreover, be liable either before or after conviction to an action in favor of any party injured, in which action damages may be recovered to five times the amount of actual damages sustained.

Chap. 629.

AN ACT for the protection of birds in public cemeteries.

Passed July 21, 1853.

The People of the State of New York, represented in Senate and Assembly, do enact as follows:

SEC. 1. Any person who shall kill or wound or trap any bird within any cemetery or public burying ground, or who shall destroy any bird's nest, or remove the eggs or young birds therefrom, shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor, punishable by a fine of five dollars for every bird killed, wounded or trapped, and for every bird's nest destroyed, or eggs or young birds removed, recoverable in any justices' court within the county where the offence was committed, to be sued for by any person making the complaint. The penalty to go towards the support of the poor of the county.

SEC. 2. Any person who shall knowingly buy or sell any bird which has been killed or trapped, or shall have such birds on sale, shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor, punishable by a

fine of five dollars for every bird bought, sold or on sale, to be recovered and to be disposed of in like manner as provided for in the first section of this act.

Chap. 402.

AN ACT to authorize the trustees of incorporated rural cemeteries to impose a tax upon the lot owners in said cemeteries.

Passed April 27, 1868.

The People of the State of New York, represented in Senate and Assembly, do enact as follows:

SECTION 1. The trustees of any rural cemetery incorporated under the laws of this State are hereby authorized to levy a tax upon the lot owners in said cemeteries, for the purpose of improving the grounds of said cemeteries, whenever the funds applicable to such purpose shall be insufficient to make the necessary repairs or improvements.

SEC. 2. Such tax shall not be levied except upon the written consent of two-thirds of the lot owners in the cemetery to which the proposed tax is to be applied, or upon the vote of a majority of all the lot owners at an annual meeting in favor of a tax for the purposes herein specified.

SEC. 3. The tax hereby authorized shall be such sum per lot as the trustees shall determine, but shall not exceed the sum of five dollars a lot in any one year, and the tax so levied shall be collected by the school district collector of the school district in which the cemetery is situated, and paid over to the treasurer of said cemetery.

SEC. 4. The provisions of this act shall not apply to cities, nor to any joint stock cemetery association or corporation.

SEC. 5. This act shall take effect immediately.

SUGGESTIONS.

In compiling the foregoing proceedings of the Trustees, it appears that though two committees had been appointed to draft By-Laws, no such By-Laws had been adopted or made a record of. Therefore, in arriving at their distinguished success the Trustees were governed by their public spirit, good sense, and good taste, rather than by any rules established for their instruction.

But this association has been established for the benefit of the future, as well as for the present generation. Future Trustees, however, may not be equally public spirited, and may not possess equal good sense and good taste.

Therefore, a judicious system of By-Laws should be adopted by the present Board of Trustees, who have shown themselves so worthy of public confidence.

I therefore submit the following SUGGESTIONS:

First—That persons should not be permitted to become members of the association for less than Fifty Dollars, in the purchase of any plot out of the Free Ground. The plots judiciously occupied, will contain eight bodies, and such as will not pay that sum for that privilege, will rarely erect stones to the memory of their dead, and thereby possibly occupy the most conspicuous ground with nameless dead. They would be likely to bury without discretion, thereby wasting ground that should be preserved for the use of future generations. They would not be willing to incur any expense in the future preservation, improvement or beautifying the ground, and they will feel no interest in the present and future welfare of the association.

Second—That the Park in the centre of the ground shall be maintained in all future time to be 65 feet square.

Third—That the free ground shall continue to be in the south-west corner, and be bounded on the north by the carriage-way which crosses the grounds from east to west, and shall be bounded on the east by the carriage-way crossing the grounds from north to south.

Fourth.—That a Superintendent should be appointed by the Trustees, to be paid as the revenues of the association will justify. His duty should be to have the care of the grounds and appurtenaaces, and to see that they are preserved and kept in order, and to dictate in the free ground, where bodies shall be buried, and that each body does not occupy a space exceeding three feet wide by eight feet long, measuring from the center of the plot. And as far as circumstances will justify, that kindred should be buried beside kindred. And to see, particularly, that in other than the free grounds bodies should not be buried in any plot to which an owner had not obtained a title, duly entered in the field-book of the association. And for the instruction of such Superintendent, a copy of the entries in the field-book should be placed in his hands.

These precautions are necessary to guard against the confusion occurring in unincorporated grounds.

They are also necessary to prevent two persons from obtaining possession of the same ground, and to prevent burials in grounds not paid for, to the disgust and wrong of those who have generously paid for the ground they occupy, and to prevent bad feeling and great injury to the Association generally.

Fifth.—Large ornamental or shade trees should be only set around the border of the grounds or around the Park, as nothing defaces grave stones or monuments like the drippings from large shade trees.

Smaller shrubs or flowers are more suitable for plots within the grounds.

Sixth.—As a revenue will be necessary at all times to pay Superintendants, and to occasionally paint the fences and Hearse House, and to repair them and other appurtenants of the grounds, and at the earliest opportunity to build a receiving vault, and a more permanent fence on the southerly portion of the grounds, I suggest the propriety of continuing the sum of Fifty Dollars per plot for all future time. And to those of limited means who wish to own, control and beautify a plot, that they may be permitted to purchase such plot in the Free Ground, at half price.

Such regulations will give a good, well regulated place of burial, free of expense to those extremely poor.

It will give, upon easy terms, a right to control the place of burial to those of limited means.

And at comparatively small expense it gives to the more affluent, places of burial as interesting as any others in the country, and insures a revenue which will be ample, and if limited to the surrounding community, will not be too soon absorbed, but will be preserved for the use of generations in the far off years.

The Association is authorized by law to receive gifts or bequests in trust, and to apply the income to the preservation or improvement of particular plots, or the cemetery, generally.

Some such bequests are already written, and for the instruction of such others as may desire to insert such bequests in their Wills, I here suggest a form.

FORM OF BEQUEST.

"I hereby give and bequeath to the HILLSDALE RURAL CEMETERY ASSOCIATION ..... dollars, to be held in trust, and to be immediately deposited in some Savings Bank until such time as a judicious investment can be made in public stocks or obligations secured by mortgages upon real estate, and the income arising therefrom to be applied in the following manner: One per cent is to be annually applied in the improvement of the cemetery plot of the testator and in preserving in the best condition the monuments erected therein, and to the painting the fence surrounding such plot, if any there be. And four per cent. of such income shall be applied in paying the Trustees for their expense and trouble in the care and disposition of said fund, and for their duties, generally, and the balance, if any there be, to be expended for the benefit of the grounds, generally."

CONCLUSION.

Should the same public spirit characterize the members of the Association in the future as in the past, the grounds will become the place of most interesting and profitable resort, not only to such as have friends sleeping there, but to all other persons.

A walk through them must ever suggest such reflections as are happily expressed by the poet in the following lines;

Here where precious dust is treasured,
  Watched by eyes from grief ne'er free,
Thou, by whom our tears are measured
  Turn those sorrowing eyes to thee.
Bid affliction wandering lonely,
  Through each walk and leafy grove,
Turn to him whose word can only
  Make the grave a place to love.

Here, may wayward footsteps bending,
  Footsteps all too careless grown,
Pondering life's uncertain ending,
  Learn to know and meet their own.
Hence may streams of influence flowing,
  Point out hearts the way to God,
And from honored ashes growing,
  Wise instructions mark the sod.

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